

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 L-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9226

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

UNCLAS GENEVA 6966

PLEASE PASS ALSO TO NE JOHNSON, NOAA

MONTREAL FOR USDEL TO ICAO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, PORG, WMO

SUBJECT: RESUMED SESSION OF CONFERNECE OF PLENIPOTENTIARY DELEGATIONS  
(CPD) FOR NAOS

RE: GENEVA 6758

SUMMARY: SUBJECT SESSION HELD FINAL (NINTH) PLENARY  
NOV 14, 1974, ADOPTING A FINAL REPORT AND A  
FINAL ACT TO WHICH IS APPENDED AN AGREEMENT FOR JOINT  
FINANCING OF NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN STATION. SIGNING  
OF FINAL ACT AT WMO HEADQUARTERS 11 AM NOVEMBER 15,  
WITH 22 PARTICIPANTS EXPECTED TO SIGN. SOME DELEGATIONS  
WILL ALSO SIGN AGREEMENT. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION URGING  
STATES TO CARRY OUT TERMS OF AGREEMENT BEGINNING  
JULY 1975 WHEN PRESENT ICAO NAOS AGREEMENT TERMINATES,  
PROVED TO BE ONE OF MOST QUESTIONS. FIRST YEAR COST  
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OF NETWORK OPERATION PUT AT 3,954,000 POUNDS STERLING,

BASED ON NOVEMBER 1974 PRICES.

1. RESUMED SESSION OF JOINT WMO/ICAO CPD FOR NAOS ADOPTED FINAL REPORT AND FINAL ACT AND AGREEMENT FOR JOINT FINANCING OF NAOS, AFTER 7 MONTHS INTERRUPTION IN CONFERENCE, WHICH FIRST OPENED MARCH 1974. DIFFICULTIES CONTINUED TO ARISE THROUGH CONFERENCE AND IT WAS ONLY BECAUSE OF GENERAL GOOD WILL AND SUSTAINED INTEREST IN CONTINUANCE OF NETWORK THAT AGREEMENT WAS REACHED.

2. INTITAL PROBLEM OF SCALE OF SHARING COSTS SETTLED EARLY IN RESUMED SESSION, USING COMLOCATED SET OF FACTORS DEVISED BY FRENCH AND BASED ON GNP, CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN AND TO WMO AND METEOROLOGICAL BENEFIT FACTORS. BY AVERAGING ALL FACTORS ADVANTAGES OR DISADVANTAGES OF INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES BECAME SUFFICIENTLY OBSCURE THAT AGREEMENT WAS POSSIBLE.

3. MAIN DIFFICULTIES DURING RESUMED SESSION WERE THREE: VOTING PROCEDURES IN THE MANAGEMENT BOARD SET UP UNDER THE AGREEMENT; LIABILITY FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF CAPITAL COSTS EVEN IF COUNTRY DENOUNCES AGREEMENT; AND MEANS FOR CONTINING NAOS NETWORK AFTER TERMINATION OF PRESENT ICAO NAOS AGREEMENT 30 JUNE 1975, BUT PRIOR TO THE COMING INTO FORCE OF NEW AGREEMENT.

4. AGREEMENT ON VOTING PROCEDURES COMPLICATED BY DESIRE TO ENSURE THAT PRINCIPAL CONTRIBUTORS AND OPERATORS COULD MAINTAIN CONTROL OF MAJOR EXPENDITURES. MOST OF THESE DIFFICULTIES WERE SUCCESSFULLY RESOLVED AS A RESULT OF QTE PACKAGE DEAL UNQTE WHICH ATTEMPTED TO SPREAD THE RISKS EQUITABLY. CONCERN OF SOME STATES TO COVER ALL POSSIBLE LOOPHOLES CAUSED LONG ARGUMENTS OVER WORDING OF ARTICLES ON VOTING AND FINANCIAL PROCEDURES.

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5. DENUCIATION ARTICLE IN AGREEMENT FIRST DRAFTED TO REQUIRE DENOUNCING STATE TO CONTINUE PAYMENT OF AMORTIZATION OF CAPITAL COSTS UNTIL 1981. THIS SUBSEQUENTLY MODIFIED TO EXEMPT SUCH STATES, IF DENUNCIATION WAS RESULT OF REDUCTION IN NUMBER OF STATIONS THAT CONTINUED FOR AS LONG AS 6 MONTHS. SOVIETS CONTINUED TO HAVE DIFFICULTY WITH DENUNCIATION ARTICLE AND MADE SEVERAL ATTEMPTS

TO ELIMINATE OBLIGATION TO PAY COSTS AFTER  
DENUNCIATION, BUT LOST BY GOOD MARGIN ON VOTE.

6. ATTEMPT TO ENSURE NO BREAK IN NETWORK OPERATION  
WHEN PRESENT ICAO NAOS AGREEMENT ENDS WAS MOST  
CONTROVERSIAL QUESTION, AS IT REQUIRES APPLICATION  
OF PROVISIONS OF NEW AGREEMENT BEFORE REQUIRED  
NUMBER OF STATES HAVE RATIFIED, WHICH REGARDED AS  
HIGHLY UNLIKELY BY 30 JUNE 1974. RESOLUTION  
IN FINAL REPORT URGES PARTICIPATING STATES TO DECLARE  
TO SEC GEN WMO THEIR INTENTIONS TO APPLY PROVISIONS  
OF AGREEMENT EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE NOT RATIFIED  
OR AGREEMENT NOT YET IN FORCE. THIS DECLARATION  
MAY INCLUDE ACCEPTANCE OF CAPITAL COSTS EVEN IF  
AGREEMENT NOT FINALLY BROUGHT INTO FORCE. A  
NUMBER OF DELEGATES INDICATED PRIVATELY THEIR  
DOUBTS THAT THEIR GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE  
SUCH DECLARATION BEFORE THE RATIFICATION PROCESS  
WAS WELL ADVANCED. IF NUMBER OF DECLARATIONS RECEIVED  
BY 31 MAY 1975 INSUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE AT LEAST 80 PERCENT  
OF OPERATING COSTS AND TO GUARANTEE CAPITAL EXPENDITURES  
SEC GEN WMO REQUESTED TO CALL CONFERENCE BY 9 JUNE  
1975 TO DECIDE FURTHER STEPS.

7. MAIN FORCE BEHIND ABOVE RESOLUTION WAS UK  
DELEGATION, INSISTING THEY NOT PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE  
RE-FITTING OF SHIPS AT 1 MILLION POUNDS STERLING  
EACH UNTIL AT LEAST 80 PERCENT OF COSTS ARE  
GUARANTEED. OLD STRUGGLE BETWEEN OPERATING AND  
CONTRIBUTING STATES SEEMS TO BE CARRYING OVER INTO  
NEW AGREEMENT. UK CRITICIZED BY SOME DELEGATIONS  
FOR RIGID POSITION AND SLOWNESS IN ACTING THAT  
CAUSED POSTPONEMENT OF RESUMED SESSION THUS LEADING  
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TO SITUATION WHERE AGREEMENT CANNOT NOW COME INTO  
FORCE BEFORE ICAO AGREEMENT TERMINATES. UK  
ARGUES THAT OTHER STATES MUST SHARE THE RISK  
EQUALLY.

8. DUE UNCERTAINTY THAT SUFFICIENT STATES WILL GIVE  
REQUIRED ASSURANCES BEFORE NEW AGREEMENT COMES  
INTO FORCE, CRISIS COULD ARISE IN JUNE 1975  
THAT WILL FORCE INTERRUPTION OF NAOS NETWORK.  
OPERATING MEMBERS ARE PESSIMISTIC THAT IF PRESENT  
SHIPS HAVE TO BE WITHDRAWN, IT WILL BE VIRTUALLY  
IMPOSSIBLE TO RE-ESTABLISH THE NETWORK.

9. SOVIETS HIGHLY COOPERATIVE THROUGHOUT  
CONFERENCE AND ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS APPEALED TO OTHER

MEMBERS TO SEEK COMPROMISE. WHEN DEFEATED IN VOTES ON WORDING OF CERTAIN ARTICLES, AGREED TO ACCEPT MAJORITY POSITION. IN SEVERAL INTERVENTIONS, REFERRED TO POSSIBILITY OF ENLARGING NETWORK AND MENTIONED THEIR SHIP BUILDING PROGRAM FOR SMALLER (1000 TON) VESSELS THAT WOULD BE MORE SUITED TO OCEAN STATION SERVICE. NEVERTHELESS, THERE WAS CONTINUED GROOMBLING OVER HIGH COST OF PRESENT SOVIET SHIPS AND SOME UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS TO GET AGREEMENT ON REDUCED COST.

10. SUBJECT OF VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS PROVIDED FOR IN ARTICLE 8 NOT EXTENSIVELY DISCUSSED IN CONFERENCE, BUT SEVERAL DELEGATIONS CONTINUE TO HOPE THAT US MAY FIND IT POSSIBLE TO MAKE SUCH CONTRIBUTION, ESPECIALLY IF JUNE 9 MEETING MUST BE CALLED. CONCEPT OF CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND NOT ELABORATED BY CONFERENCE, BUT APPARENTLY COULD BE EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES OR SERVICES NEEDED IN OPERATING NETWORK. SUCH CONTRIBUTORS WOULD NOT HAVE VOICE IN MANAGEMENT OF NETWORK BUT COULD BE INVITED TO BOARD MEETINGS UNDER AUTHORITY OF ITS CHAIRMAN.

11. IN CLOSING PLENARY, SEC GEN WMO SAID WORK OF CONFERENCE WAS QTE WISE AND FARSIGHTED ACTION THAT WILL  
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BENEFIT PARTICIPATING PARTIES AND OTHER MEMBERS FOR MANY YEARS TO COME. IT BRINGS NEW AND IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITIES TO WMO SECRETARIAT UNQTE. IN SPITE OF UNCERTAINTIES STILL REMAINING OVER ABILITY OF PARTICIPATING STATES TO KEEP NETWORK GOING, SEC GEN OBVIOUSLY PLEASED THAT CONFERENCE FINALLY REACHED AGREEMENT. CONFERENCE REPORT INCLUDES PROPOSED COST OF ABOUT 75,000 DOLLARS FOR WMO ADMINISTRATION OF AGREEMENT.DALE

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